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JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON BEAGLE TALKS

PY012157 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1522 GMT 1 Apr 80 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Apr (NA)--It was officially reported that the delegations of Argentina and Chile attending the pope's mediation in the southern border conflict have reached "some agreements of a general nature on matters related to the agenda" during the recent meetings.

This information was reported in a joint communique simultaneously released in this capital; in Santiago, Chile; and in the Vatican. The communique indicates that the next plenary sessions will be held in May, and that the continuation of the work preparations will be held in April. The communique states:

"In fulfillment of the program prepared jointly last February, during the first few days in March and after a series of separate meetings held by the mediator, Cardinal Antonio Samore, with the Argentine and Chilean delegations, an agreement was reached on an agenda which details a series of ideas and matters aimed at finding concurrence to facilitate a total and final solution to the conflict in all its aspects that is acceptable to the two parties.

"The following weeks were used by the two delegations to make the appropriate preparations through conversations with the mediator's representative regarding the various points of the agenda. From 24-29 March, a thorough study of the agenda was made, particularly during five joint meetings and several separate meetings with one or the other delegation. The work was intense. The two delegations expressed their opinions clearly and with the usual desire to contribute to the good results of the negotiation. The result of this is the fact that some agreements of a general nature on matters related to the agenda can be observed.

"At the same time, after many hours of detailed study, it has been possible to get more precise and up-to-date knowledge of the two delegations' positions on matters on which there seems to be less concurrence.

"As on previous occasions, there was an exchange of ideas on matters to be studied in the immediate future, specifically in the joint meetings which will be held in May after the work preparations are held in April.

"The Vatican, 1 April 1980."

SUGAR QUOTAS RISE FOR JAMAICA, PERU, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FL021927 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL

[Text] After months of negotiation, Jamaica, Peru and the Dominican Republic have won increases in their basic export quotas under the international sugar agreement, the ISA. The ISA meeting, which ended in London yesterday, allocated 106,000 tons to Jamaica, 330,000 tons to Peru and 2 million tons to the Dominican Republic.

The executive director of the ISA, Mr William Miller, said the Jamaican's [word indistinct] was settled in the light of the peculiar weather problems which have been experienced on the island and because of the importance of sugar to the Jamaican economy.

CASTRO MADERO DISCUSSES EMBALSE DELAY, MOSCOW TALKS

PY030143 Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 1 Apr 80 p 14 PY

[From our agency]

[Text] Cordoba--In statements made to the press last night at Cordoba International Airport, the chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] said that "it will not be possible to begin operating the Embalse nuclear plant in 1981 but, yes, we can say that it will be operating during 1982. The CNEA is making the necessary effort to put it into operation as soon as possible." Referring to the negotiations with the Soviet Union, Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero said: "The results were excellent. The talks were fruitful and profitable, especially taking into account that this was the first trip made with a view to exploring a possible cooperation plan with the Soviet Union." Finally, Castro Madero termed as "completely unfounded" a rumor that the United States has agreed to provide Brazil with nuclear missiles.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

PY030341 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2307 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (TELAM)--The conversations which began on 31 March between the Bulgarian delegation headed by Spas Gueorguiev, vice minister of foreign trade, and the Argentine delegation headed by Hector Legarre, under secretary of foreign trade, ended with the signing of a final act at the Commerce and International Economic Negotiations Secretariat today.

During his stay in the country, the Bulgarian vice minister met with Alejandro M. Estrada, secretary of commerce and international economic negotiations; the under secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; and the chief of cabinet of the Foreign Ministry.

During the Bulgarian delegation's visit, an economic and technical cooperation agreement was concluded and concrete measures were proposed to speed up trade. It was also agreed to hold the first mixed commission meeting in Sofia during the second half of 1981.

EXECUTIVE APPROVES PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS LAW

PY012234 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2035 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Apr (TELAM)--The labor minister announced this afternoon that the executive branch has approved Decree No 640 which regulates the law of professional associations. The law establishes, among other things, that until the final social welfare law is approved, unions must have a separate administration and accounting of the funds for social welfare.

CUTA DIVIDED OVER CIOSL APPOINTMENT

PY012220 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1830 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Apr (NA)--The United Leadership of Argentine Workers (CUTA) was virtually divided this afternoon after the National Labor Commission (CNT) unilaterally resolved to put into practice a plan to appoint its candidate for the International Federation of Free Trade Unions (CIOSL) and to call a plenum of secretaries general in a meeting which was not attended by a single member of the Commission of 25.

PRESIDENT OBJECTS TO PROPOSED CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

PY021415 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Text] The president of the republic last night examined the first two temporary articles of the electoral law approved by Congress, which establish that the legislature to be elected in June will function as a constituent assembly during its first 30 days in session and afterwards continue functioning as a regular congress. She sent a note to the chairman of the Congress last night which reads as follows: In answer to the note sent to me by the honorable Congress, with which I also received the text of the electoral law approved by the Congress, I must say first of all that, reaffirming my promise to transfer the presidency on 6 August, I ordered the Council of Ministers to begin immediate study and consideration of the electoral law, which was unanimously approved.

The note adds: Nevertheless, considering the temporary nature of these dispositions, and in my capacity as president of the republic provided for in Article 76 of the Constitution, I hereby make the following observation: The executive branch, in its role as overseer of the fulfillment of the Constitution, feels that Articles 1 and 2 of the temporary dispositions of the electoral law approved by Congress violate Articles 230, 231 and 232 of the Constitution, which have to do with the amendment of the Constitution. Therefore, the executive branch has no constitutional power to call for a constituent assembly as proposed by the Congress in its 12 January 1980 resolution and reiterated in Article 2 of the temporary dispositions.

In making this observation, I only want to point out that my sole concern is preventing the possibility that the next elections, in which we are all interested in order to save the democratic process, might be canceled under the argument that they are unconstitutional.

Reiterating my irrevocable resolution to hold general elections on 29 June, I ask you, Mr Chairman, to summon the honorable Congress to give its opinion on this observation.

With this, I repeat my sincere compliments and greetings, concludes the note sent by President Lidia Gueiler to the Congress.

SANTA CRUZ DECIDES TO ABSTAIN FROM ELECTIONS

PY021747 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] The civic institutions of Santa Cruz have decided to abstain from participation in the upcoming elections as an expression of protest over the law approving the construction of the San Buena Ventura sugar mill. The report by the Radio Panamericana correspondent in Santa Cruz City also says that the civic institutions of that part of the country have decided to immediately withdraw the Santa Cruz representatives from the Congress.

BRIEFS

RADIO STATION LICENSE SUSPENDED--The National Telecommunications Enterprise [ENTEL] will suspend the operating permit of Radio Serrano in Beni Department for not paying its license fees and for illegally competing and interfering with the public communications service operated by ENTEL. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY]

SAO PAULO METALWORKERS STRIKE SPREADS THROUGHOUT STATE

PY021607 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpts] In the interior of the state, the metalworkers' strike is affecting several cities. In Piracicaba approximately 20,000 workers have stopped work. In Lorena, five of the six iron and steel plants in the city have halted their operations, and in Cruzeiro 50 percent of the workers have joined the strike, while only the smaller companies are operating. Approximately 70,000 metalworkers failed to report for work in the Paraiba Valley. In Campinas, 3,500 steel workers held a meeting and decided to join the strike, which therefore, affects 1,500 facilities in the region.

The rate established by the Regional Labor Court [TRT] to be paid to the workers by the employers did not please the employers' group.

[Begin (Nilton Flora) recorded report] The TRT decided to grant a 7-percent bonus for productivity to those earning between the minimum salary and three times the minimum salary and 6 percent to those earning more than three times the minimum salary. [end recording]

We will now give you a report on the general situation in the ABC region. Here are reporters (Pedro Luis Ronco) and (Jose Roberto Marques).

[Begin (Ronco) recorded report] The Sao Bernardo union continues giving orders to its members. These are some of the main instructions: Everyone must remain at home. No provocations must be made. The iron and steel workers must be present at a general assembly to take place at 1000 at the (Manuel Euclides) stadium, where the TRT decision will be discussed. Finally, the workers are urged to avoid any unnecessary activities. The Sao Bernardo [word indistinct] did not present any request and continues stating that the stoppage has affected 90 percent of the workers. (Roberto Marques) has further information. [end (Ronco), begin (Marques) recorded report] The buses used for transporting Volkswagen workers arrived completely empty this morning. There was little movement at the gates of the plant. The number of policemen deployed there is rather small since there was no activity by strike pickets. The situation at other plants in Sao Bernardo do Campo and Diadema is the same as here, that is, everything is calm. At 1000 today the (Manuel Euclides) stadium is expected to host the union leaders of Sao Bernardo do Campo and approximately 60,000 workers, on the basis of what happened yesterday. In Santo Andre, the workers will hold their assembly at 1600 at the (Chansatuba) stadium. [end recorded report]

DEPUTY FAVORS REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA

PY021610 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Marcos Cunha, PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] deputy for the state of Pernambuco, at a plenary session of the Chamber of Deputies, supported the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with Cuba. He termed it illogical that the Brazilian Embassy in Cuba must be kept closed only because Cuba has relations with the Soviet Union, while we ourselves have relations with the Soviet Union.

BRIEFS

NEW AIR FORCE COMMANDER--President Figueiredo has appointed Gen Roberto Augusto Carrao de Andrade commander of the air force general command. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY]

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PHILIPPINES TO CONTINUE

PY022205 Paris AFP in Spanish 2238 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Apr (AFP)--The Chilean Government has decided to continue diplomatic relations with the Philippines, thus canceling the announcement made last week, it was officially reported here today.

Communique Issued

PY030206 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 80 PY

[Text of official communique issued by the Presidential Press Secretariat in Santiago on 2 April]

[Text] His excellency the president of the republic, Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, has read the letter sent to him by his excellency the president of the Republic of the Philippines, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, through his special envoy Eduardo Romualdez. President Pinochet has also learned about the additional explanation that was personally given by Ambassador Romualdez during his talks with the Chilean foreign minister.

After appraising all this information, and taking into account the permanent interests of friendship existing between Chile and the Philippines, the president of the republic has decided to consider the unfortunate incident closed. Therefore, the two states will continue to maintain relations.

STUDENT REPORTS DETENTION, BEATING IN WASHINGTON

PY021643 Paris AFP in Spanish 1649 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Concepcion, Chile, 2 Apr (AFP)--A young Chilean medical student who was expelled from the United States reported here today that U.S. officials have falsely labeled him a spy.

"Without knowing why, I was detained in Washington. I was interrogated, beaten and forced to sign a document declaring that I was an agent of the Chilean military government," Juan Jose Soto Vargas stated.

Soto was studying at Georgetown University when the incident took place last February. He added that he was later sent back to Chile, where local officials kept him under detention to be tried for a robbery perpetrated in 1975, of which he declares himself innocent.

The 25-year old student's story has been termed "curious" by the judicial officials who met him at the prison here in Concepcion--500 km south of Santiago.

POLICE SEARCHING FOR FORMER DINA COLLABORATOR

PY021943 Paris AFP in Spanish 1759 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 2 Apr (AFP)--It was learned here today that the Chilean police have received orders to arrest a fugitive former collaborator of the intelligence services involved in the disappearances of several persons.

Osvaldo Romo Mena, who was an informant of the National Intelligence Department (DINA), is accused of kidnappings and illegal arrests by relatives of Chilean missing persons. Many of the missing persons belonged to proscribed leftist political organizations.

Judicial sources revealed that there are several orders for the arrest of Osvaldo Romo, and that he has presumably left the country. Before the military takeover in 1973, Romo belonged to leftist organizations and was known as "Commander Raul."

GOVERNMENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 21 AFTER NINTH MEETING

PA022329 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Communique No 21 released by the Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic]

[Text] The Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic announces that the ninth meeting between Drs Camilo Jimenez and Ramiro Zambrano, the embassy attackers' representative and Peruvian Consul Alfredo Tejeda, who served as witness, was held today, 2 April. The meeting began at 1508 and concluded at 1555.

During the meeting, the representative of the subversive 19 April Movement reread the memorandum delivered yesterday by the government delegates and made comments that she announced will be further explained at the next meeting. It was agreed through the usual channels that the new dialog will be held on Thursday, 3 April, at 1500.

Bogota, 2 April 1980

Presidency of the Republic, Press and Information Secretariat.

COMMANDER UNO COMPLAINS OF HARASSMENT PROVOCATIONS

PA022140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1534 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (AFP)--Commander Uno, leader of the terrorist 19 April Movement (M-19) group which has been holding 27 hostages in the Dominican Republic Embassy here for the past 35 days, today said that they have been harassed and provoked. He threatened to open fire against those who have been engaged in those activities.

On the morning of 1 April there was a soldier at the back of the building trying to provoke our people, he said. [Explaining that] provocation consists of drawing the M-19's attention, harassing them, throwing objects such as bricks and pebbles at the embassy and inciting the hostages to leave the building.

"We do not want them to continue provoking us because we are going to have to shoot at them. Let this be a warning to them. We don't think that is something spontaneous. We think that it is not the idea of an individual but that higher orders have been given," the guerrilla told the EL ESPECTADOR newspaper.

Commander Uno also noted that the guerrillas will respect the physical integrity and the lives of the hostages but he made it clear that that depends on the army's or the foreign commando units' not storming the embassy. According to him, foreign commando units have arrived in Colombia. The M-19, he said, is not overlooking the possibility that the embassy might be stormed.

If something bloody and sinister happens in this embassy it will be because we were forced into it, he said as he stated that the government has not wanted to solve the issue of the release of 311 political prisoners and the payment of the \$50 million ransom.

President Julio Cesar Turbay's administration has contended that it cannot negotiate those demands or give in to them because it would be violating the law and the Constitution. The government conveyed a document to the M-19 7 days ago detailing the accusations made against the prison inmates whose release has been requested.

The government has also given assurances that the embassy will not be stormed as long as the terrorists respect the integrity and the lives of the hostages, including 11 ambassadors and 8 other diplomatic personnel.

The guerrilla leader said they are ready to remain in the embassy 2 or 3 months and noted that the possibility of a settlement is in the hands of the government which, he said, has not taken a serious and responsible position. He said the M-19 does not want to topple the government because it is interested only in the release of its imprisoned comrades. He stated that their demands are unchangeable.

In the reportage by EL ESPECTADOR, the guerrilla chieftain revealed that Haitian Ambassador Leonard Pierre-Louis had some stomach trouble but added that he has improved. He remarked: We have not thought of letting him go.

He admitted that the M-19 likes to be appreciated by the Colombian community and the international community and to enjoy their sympathy. He said that that is why we have respected the hostages, with whom we have a very good relationship. However, he added that if for any reason the government or the army should attack the embassy, it would be blown up.

Commander Uno said if the M-19 decides to change its stand concerning the hostages, he will not harm one but all of them and ourselves along with them. The guerrilla leader said the Colombian Government is showing its inability to handle an international issue. He said that in the end many foreign governments will not want to have relations with Colombia.

The mysterious terrorist leader who agreed that the authorities have already identified him refused to give his name, explaining that his mother and family would be tortured if he did. Many things would happen and there would be psychological pressure.

[Question by unidentified interviewer] What is your profession, Commander Uno?

[Answer] I am a guerrilla.

[Question] And what else?

[Answer] I am involved in raising political consciousness.

The extremist added that thousands upon thousands of M-19 sympathizers are young people but that it lends itself to people of all ages. He reported that in the past few days a Mass was said inside the Dominican Embassy in memory of his comrade, Carlos Arturo Sandoval, who died on 27 February, the day of the occupation. He finally noted that the M-19 will begin to release the diplomatic hostages when the government accedes to its demands.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION INVITED TO VISIT

PA021559 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic has disclosed the following message sent by the foreign minister to the Colombian ambassador in Washington: Please deliver the following text to the President and the members of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission:

It has long been an aspiration of the Colombian Government to invite this commission, whose honesty and uprightness are internationally recognized, to visit our country to examine the general human rights situation, witness the public part of the courts-martial being conducted within the framework of the Constitution and the laws of the republic and learn about the progress of the trials. The government also wants the Inter-American Human Rights Commission to learn about the progress of the investigations on alleged abuses of authorities in regard to human rights.

We want to promote the investigations called for by the Amnesty International report whose veracity must be established by us. The relevant authorities also want the commission to learn about the large number of investigations carried out as a result of the complaints that were filed. Many of these investigations have concluded and we want you to attest to the impartiality with which they were conducted. We want to stress that the sooner you come to visit Colombia, the more effective and informative the results will be.

With the highest consideration and appreciation, [Signed] Diego Uribe Vargas, foreign minister.

This message has been sent at a time when Amnesty International reported on the result of the investigations of three of its delegates during a recent visit to our country to look into alleged human rights violations in Colombia.

Arrival Date 21 Apr

PA022012 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The OAS Human Rights Commission has set 21 April [as heard] as the date when it will visit Colombia. The announcement was made to this newscast a few minutes ago by Luis Demetrio Tinoco, chairman of the commission. The commission accepted an invitation made by the Colombian Government yesterday through Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT TO BE MADE PUBLIC

PA022011 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The Colombian Government has announced that all Colombians will be able to know the contents of the Amnesty International report on the respect of human rights in Colombia. Government Minister German Zea Hernandez said that the government is not interested in hiding anything.

[Begin Zea Hernandez recording] The government is waiting for the report in order to adopt the measures it deems advisable. This means that if there are truly serious charges in this report, pertinent investigations will be carried out as has always been done in cases in which charges have been pressed. The government has never had any interesting in hiding anything. Consequently, whatever Amnesty International had to say will be disclosed opportunely. [end recording]

Government Minister Zea Hernandez told this newscast that the OAS Human Rights Commission, which will arrive in Colombia next week [as heard], will have the necessary freedom to carry out the investigations requested by the Turbay government.

GOVERNMENT SAYS BUCARAM PLOTTING AGAINST DEMOCRACY

PA020442 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpts] Only hours away from the moment when Assad Bucaram will speak to the nation, he was accused of being one of the leaders of an antidemocratic plot. The charge was made by Alejandro Roman, the most important government spokesman.

[Begin Roman recording] Mr Bucaram is a plotter. In addition to that, he is a spokesman for the ultraright, a man who has betrayed the interests and aspirations of the people to join the most conspicuous representatives of the national oligarchy, such as Otto Arosemena Gomez and Leon (Fevres) Cordero, in an antidemocratic effort. [end recording]

Roman, secretary-general of public administration, was harsh in his warnings. He said that the government will not tolerate the continuation of any effort aimed at disintegrating the country by seditious means. Roman said that any person, including Bucaram, who insults the president of the republic or the officials of the government, will be severely punished in accordance with the law.

Showing an attitude that went beyond that expected from a person representing the state, Roman warned: [Begin recording] The government is going to adopt positions within the framework of the country's democratic and constitutional resources. It will not allow any seditious opposition. It will tolerate all constructive opposition coming from any political or social sector in Ecuador, but I repeat, it will not permit the coupist subversion of the oligarchy.

In this regard, I restate that there are people like Bucaram and Leon (Fevres) Cordero who have confused immunity with impunity, freedom with licentiousness, and tolerance with weakness and this is something the government will never accept. Any person who insults government officials or the president of the republic will be severely punished, based on the penalty that the Ecuadorean penal code establishes for this type of crime.

[Question by unidentified interviewer] Including Mr Bucaram, Mr Secretary?

[Answer] Including any citizen of this country. This government will not let anyone insult the president of the republic. [end recording]

His show of confidence was even greater when he was asked for his opinion regarding a presidential victory in a plebiscite. Roman made it evident he was absolutely sure that President Roldos will win because as he said, the people cannot vote against the people.

However, without wanting to admit the possibility of a defeat, he discarded the possibility of the president being forced to resign out of political dignity, as some legislative sectors have suggested.

[Begin recording] The action of consulting the opinion of the people of Ecuador cannot be a threat to anyone but to those who hate or fear the people. About the possibility of the president of the republic being defeated in the plebiscite, it is absolutely inconceivable. The president--the government--is going to win, because, I repeat, the people cannot vote against the people. But in the framework of abstract possibilities, if he is defeated, there is no constitutional law forcing the president to resign. This would not be a legal obligation. However, we cannot discuss something that on the one hand is hypothetical and on the other will be rejected. [end recording]

At a moment when all political observers were suggesting that the chief of state has to evaluate the trustworthiness of his team of advisers, Roman announced their resignation as a group.

[Begin recording] This morning the advisers of the presidency of the republic presented their resignations, giving the president freedom to choose what is most suitable for the national interests. The gentlemen [words indistinct] of the presidency of the republic have presented their resignation as a group giving the president [words indistinct] most suitable for the national interests. [end recording]

BUARAM REJECTS ACCUSATIONS BY GOVERNMENT MINISTER

PA021551 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Asaad Bucaram, president of the Chamber of Representatives, denied that he ever opposed or sabotaged President Roldos' nomination. On the contrary, he said that he was the one who suggested and promoted Roldos' candidacy when he had only aspired to become the mayor of Guayaquil.

Bucaram also rejected the charges of traitor that Government Minister Feraud Blum made against him for abandoning the forces which elected Roldos to the presidency. According to Bucaram, the government is the one that has forgotten about democracy and the sectors which made Roldos' victory possible. Bucaram said that he will give up the presidency of the chamber and his life if necessary in defense of a better future for the Equadorean people.

In a radio-television network broadcast in Guayaquil the leader of Concentration of Popular Forces began by saying that it is necessary to clarify many misunderstood statements by government officials and by the president of the republic because so much has been said that no mortal human being can take.

Bucaram Assails Roldos

PA030313 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] In answer to statements made by President Roldos and Government Minister Carlos Feraud, Assad Bucaram accused the chief of state of attempting to establish a dictatorship in the country by crushing the Chamber of Representatives.

The parliamentary leader described the constitutional amendments proposed by the president as being of "sinister intent." He said that President Roldos cannot govern without totalitarian powers which will lead him to issue dictatorial laws.

CFP OFFICIALS ARRESTED FOR 'INSULTING' PRESIDENT

PA021656 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Abdala Bucaram Ortiz, Guayas Province police chief, sentenced Rafael de la Cadena, assistant national director of the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP) and acting chairman of the Guayas Provincial Council, and Gustavo Avellan, national chairman of CFP youths, to 4 days in prison with a fine of 120 sucres. De la Cadena and Avellan were arrested last night on charges of insulting the president of the republic, disturbing public order, spreading false rumors and illegally possessing firearms.

MAN KILLED IN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN VIOLENCE

PY022000 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1757 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] Lima, 2 Apr (LATIN)--It was reported here today that the Peruvian electoral campaign has suffered its first victim.

The Popular Action Party (PAP) of former President Fernando Belaunde stated in a communique that a PAP militant, identified as Jose Rodolfo Alcantara, was stabbed to death in the northern city of Chiclayo.

The communique added that several PAP members were wounded and that one of them is in very serious condition.

Alcantara, 28 years of age, who was PAP secretary general in a Chiclayo district, leaves a widow and a 1-year-old baby girl.

The newspaper LA PRENSA in its Monday edition reported this event through its Chiclayo correspondent, indicating that a group of militants of the center-left Action for American Popular Revolution Party [Accion Para la Revolucion Popular Americana] perpetrated this tragedy.

MINISTRY NEGOTIATING EXIT FOR HAVANA REFUGEES

PY030153 Paris AFP in Spanish 2231 GMT 2 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] Lima, 2 Apr (AFP)--The Peruvian Foreign Ministry has been acting energetically from the very beginning to take out of Cuba those persons who sought asylum at the embassy in Havana, "and we hope they will let us take them out," Foreign Minister Arturo Garcia y Garcia stated here today.

The six persons that entered the embassy yesterday brought to 25 the number of Cubans who have thus far sought political asylum at the Peruvian Embassy. They entered the embassy in separate groups and on different dates by crushing vehicles through the main gate of the embassy.

Garcia y Garcia added that Peruvian Ambassador Jaime Caceres has been negotiating in Havana for the departure of [word indistinct] of those refugees.

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH--Lima, 1 Apr (AFP)--Peruvian industry during 1979 increased by 6.2 percent, due to the drastic programs for economic reactivation implemented by the military regime. The industry, commerce, tourism and integration ministry reported that the manufacturing industry produced 25 percent of the GNP between 1968 and 1979. The most important increases in production during 1979 were registered in textiles, manufactured articles, leather, the nonmetallic mineral industries and the basic metal industries. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1829 GMT 1 Apr 80 PY]

PHOSPHATE RESERVES--The reserves of the Bayovar phosphate deposit totals 550 million tons. Energy and Mines Minister Gen Rene Balarezo has inspected the deposit and visited the pilot plant which produces 30,000 tons a year of phosphoric rock. The Bayovar project, whose implementation will take 5 years, should result in the production of 880,000 tons of concentrated mineral a year. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 Mar 80 p 1 PA]

RESIDUAL PETROLEUM PRICES REDUCED AGAIN

PA020125 Paris AFP in Spanish 2339 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 1 Apr (AFP)--Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon announced here today that Venezuela has reduced the price of residual petroleum between \$1 and \$3 per barrel.

One week ago, and as a result of an initial reduction of up to \$2 per 159 liter-barrel, this petroleum sold for \$22.30 to \$32.25. This price scale has now been changed to between \$17.30 to \$31.25. Residual oil with a .3-percent content of sulphur will cost \$31.25, that with a 1-percent content of sulphur will cost \$26.42 and that with 2.8-percent content will cost \$17.30. The residual fuels are obtained from crude oil after gasoline and other light byproducts are extracted from it. They are mainly used as fuel for thermoelectric plants and residential heating.

A relatively mild winter on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard, Venezuela's traditional market for this petroleum, reduced demand so Venezuela has an excess of accumulated residual petroleum. Calderon said today that current reserves of this product amount to 13.7 million barrels while the desirable level is only 7.5 million. Because of this, for the first time since the oil price increases brought about by the Iranian Revolution began, Venezuela reduced the price of this petroleum last week and today repeated the operation. The situation reached such an extreme that residual oil could be bought on the spot market at a lower price than those set by Venezuela, a member of OPEC.

Calderon insisted today that Venezuela has an additional problem which is the shortage of gasoline that will be brought about here by the decrease in the sale of residual oils. The country currently consumes some 300,000 barrels a day of that fuel, which is sold here at one of the lowest prices in the world: between \$.02 and \$.07 a liter.

To produce a barrel of gasoline the Venezuelan refineries simultaneously produce five barrels of residuals, the storage facilities for which are already full. To empty these facilities, the country has to stop wasting gasoline. The minister added that if this is not done, and in view of the serious shortage of gasoline caused by the Venezuelan transport system, which depends on the car, Venezuela will be forced to continue lowering the prices of the petroleum it supplies to its foreign clients.

CORPOVEN REPORTS ITS PRODUCTION CAPACITY

PA020324 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpt] Eduardo Rios, evaluation manager of CORPOVEN--a subsidiary of Venezuelan Petroleum [PETROVEN]--has announced that CORPOVEN has the capacity to produce 400,000 barrels of oil daily. [Words indistinct] the engineering school of Zulia University. He also said drilling programs are in an exploratory phase. He said CORPOVEN's oil reserves in the western region is 1,317,000,000 barrels. Rios noted that by the end of this year, this is expected to increase by 175 million barrels.

BRIEFS

COSTA RICAN, MEXICAN DELEGATIONS--Fernando Altmann, Costa Rican economy minister, and Jose Andres de Oteyza, Mexican secretary of patrimony and industrial development, have visited the Orinoco petroleum belt. They were accompanied by Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuelan energy and mines minister. Yesterday they discussed with Minister Calderon Berti subjects related to energy affairs and technical cooperation. [Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 25 Mar 80 PA]

COSTA RICA

MINISTER DENIES INVOLVEMENT WITH ARMS SHIPMENTS

PA020320 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] No measures have been considered to control the country's airports. We have not had anything to do with any arms shipments sent to El Salvador either, Costa Rican Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria has said. According to the minister, there is no knowledge of any arms shipment reaching our country on its way to El Salvador. Neither do we know if any have come from some other country.

According to him, our current problem is lack of control over the countless airports that dot the country. Any airport can receive a plane without our having any control over it, the minister explained. We have not adopted any measures because our budget is not big enough to buy a sophisticated system to allow better control, he explained, adding that if a small-plane radar costs \$25,000, a more powerful one would cost [figure indistinct]. The security minister stated frankly that no one could honestly affirm that weapons had either entered or left our country by air.

EL SALVADOR

FPL SAYS U.S. SEEKS ALLIES IN INTERVENTION

PA022001 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The ferociousness of the enemy reflects the historic importance attached to stopping the revolutionary process in El Salvador, says a document released by the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] on its 10th anniversary. The document adds that nothing and no one will stop the Salvadoran revolutionary process because its principles are fair and the people and their vanguard are achieving the revolution. The document also denounces the maneuvers of U.S. imperialism, which has bolstered its hawkish line worldwide, particularly in Central America and the Caribbean. It is looking for foreign allies to justify direct intervention in El Salvador. It concludes by noting that the FPL is determined to fight alongside the people to defeat fascism in their country and to achieve the self-determination of the Salvadoran people.

JUNTA EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE IN REFORM MEASURES

PA030218 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 3 Apr 80 pp 3, 20 PA

[Text] The Revolutionary Government Junta has expressed to the international press its confidence that measures such as the agrarian reform and the nationalization of banks and foreign trade will be supported by the people. Jose Napoleon Duarte clearly stated that changes cannot be made overnight. One must bear in mind, he said, that we are trying to change 50 years of dictatorship.

Government sources have explained that since 6 March when the agrarian reform began to be implemented, more than 70,000 peasant families have received land from some 50 farms with the best land in the country. They added that the general plan establishes the distribution of land to some 220,000 families during two new phases of the agrarian reform in 1981.

Duarte explained that when land was taken away from the wealthy they were hurt in their most vulnerable area. With the nationalization of banks, he added, we eliminated one of the methods used by the wealthy to take money out of the country since they owned most of the banks. The junta member said that the drain of capital amounted to some \$1.5 billion.

At the same news conference, it was hinted that the murderers of the San Salvador archbishop might have been rightists who want to provoke a general insurrection so they can return to power. Some members of the government admit that they do not have full control over the armed forces and that some members might be cooperating with extreme rightists.

Morales Ehrlich said the junta is trying to obtain the support of the country's large silent majority in order to carry out the program of structural reforms begun by the armed forces on 15 October with the overthrow of the Romero government.

PAPER SAYS NICARAGUA BECOMING SOVIET REGIONAL BASE

PA022349 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 26 Mar 80 p 7 PA

[Article by Herminio Portell Vila: "The Russians in Nicaragua"]

[Text] A large number of Soviet journalists and agents have been in Nicaragua for several months and are frantically extending their tentacles in all directions with the support of local and Cuban communists. But in January a true invasion of Nicaragua by Soviet diplomats and agents occurred. They all stopped first in Havana on their way from Moscow. The Russians already in Cuba spent several days preparing the newcomers for their assignment in Nicaragua, not only with vaccinations and other medical services but also with briefings. It was as if they had attended a seminar on Nicaragua during their stay in Havana.

The first group of Soviet 'diplomats,' 11 persons, including Charge d'Affaires Aleksandr Simakov, arrived in Managua on 5 January on a plane provided by Cubana de Aviacion. Several hours later a second group of 'diplomats' arrived from Cuba. This group consisted of 20 Russians. They were all lodged in a palatial residence that had belonged to one of the Somozas so that they would feel secure and comfortable. The new Soviet ambassador will arrive later, with another group of subordinates, and will thus complete the 100-strong force.

Nicaragua has appointed an ambassador to Moscow. He is a ferocious, reckless leftist named Ricardo Wheelock, who was a member of the "Sandinist" guerrillas and was later appointed ambassador to Honduras. However, his conduct in Tegucigalpa--even before presenting his credentials--was such that he had to be recalled to avoid a conflict with Honduras.

There is no doubt that the Soviet delegation to Nicaragua is much too large for such a small country. Its members will now join efforts with the similarly numerous Soviet agents already in Costa Rica, just across the border. Their work as spies, subversive agents, propagandists, masters of terrorism and arms suppliers will soon be felt in El Salvador, Honduras, Belize, Guatemala and Panama. For obvious reasons Nicaragua is for the Russians a better operations base than Costa Rica. The Soviet 'diplomats' have arrived in Nicaragua prepared to accomplish their tasks. The good people of Nicaragua and its government junta will soon discover the real mission entrusted to their new guests.

HOLY WEEK PROCESSIONS CANCELED IN CAPITAL

PA022117 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1237 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Catholic Church authorities in San Salvador have not planned any religious activities in the streets in view of the unstable conditions in the capital as a result of the violent actions which keep occurring unexpectedly.

Father Tomaso Federico Tanguiano, parish priest at El Calvario church, announced that all processions and religious services to commemorate the life, passion and death of Jesus Christ will be carried out inside the churches.

Holy Week activities will be carried out as usual in the country's interior.

CRM EXPECTS 'STRATEGIC MILITARY ACTION SOON'

PA022207 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1819 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--A leader of the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses [CRM] said here last night that unity of the Salvadoran leftist forces "is near". The leader, whose identity was not disclosed, was one of the main speakers at a political-cultural event marking Nicaraguan solidarity with the Salvadoran people, which included participation by Latin American internationalist artists. The event will continue today at the same place. It was announced that one of the speakers will be Esteban Pablevich, a Peruvian who, together with El Salvador's Farabundo Marti, were secretaries to Nicaraguan Gen Cesar Augusto Sandino.

The Salvadoran representative last night said creation of a "democratic revolutionary front" is about to be announced. He said this organization will implement the programs of a democratic and revolutionary government once victory is won in the country.

"We are going to strike imperialism, the oligarchy and the tyranny of the Salvadoran army," the CRM representative said, raising his left arm with a clenched fist. He added that the Salvadoran people "are making qualitative progress in the organization of their masses." The unidentified leader said "imperialism is planning to kill 80,000 Salvadorans in order to wipe out the revolutionary forces."

"Imperialism is wrong if it believes that we are 80,000 revolutionaries in El Salvador; they are underestimating us because we are a whole nation up in arms, struggling to win political power," the Salvadoran representative said.

He disclosed that "strategic military actions" will occur in El Salvador soon. He added that although it is true that there are no mountains in El Salvador for the guerrillas, "the people are the mountains." He added that after victory, the new government will not take property away from the Germans, the French, the petty bourgeoisie or the small producers.

"However, we will take into account the oligarchy that controls 90 percent of Salvadoran wealth" he noted. He said the Salvadoran revolutionaries "will be loyal in defending the interests of the workers."

He warned that the "hour of decision" has arrived. "Those in favor of the revolution and those against it must make a decision in El Salvador. Those who stay in the middle will be caught in the crossfire," the Salvadoran revolutionary leader warned.

PEOPLE REPORTEDLY TRAINING TO COMBAT REGIME

FL020115 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL

[Excerpt] In view of the regime's brutality, which does not distinguish between age or sex, the Salvadoran people, especially its young, are training clandestinely.

In this film, taken somewhere in El Salvador, men, women and children are learning how to use handguns, the only weapons they have to defend themselves from soldiers trained and armed with rifles and machineguns and backed by tanks made in the United States.

FPL LEADER GREETES SALVADORANS, CALLS FOR STRUGGLE

PA011432 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Message to Salvadoran people from Salvador Cayetano Carpio, leader of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces, date and place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] On behalf of the Central Command of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL], we greet with great enthusiasm our heroic people on the 10th anniversary of the creation of our organization. The FPL began its work on 1 April 1970 and our people initiated the armed struggle march in harmony with all the other forms of struggle. Ten years later, all the structures of capitalist domination are shaky, the domination of imperialism in El Salvador is shaking, and our people are forming the basis for the great revolutionary unity.

The FPL, the national resistance and the Communist Party of El Salvador are the basis for the great revolutionary coordination of all the progressive forces of our people. These mechanisms of coordination are open to the other political and military revolutionary organizations such as the Revolutionary People's Army and other similar organizations. Likewise, the heroic mass organizations--the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc and its associated organizations, the United Popular Action Front, the 28 February Peoples Leagues and the Nationalist Democratic Union, the working class and its labor organizations, the Unified Confederation of Salvadoran Workers, the Revolutionary Trade Union Federation and others--are strengthening their coordinated organization.

Our great leader Agustin Farabundo Marti, in a prophetic, revolutionary and Marxist manner, made the following statement on the day of his execution, 1 February 1932; the seed of the revolution in El Salvador has been planted and it will bear fruit. For the sake of the new generations of this great era, our people have seized those words and the revolution is going steadfastly toward a victorious end, a people's revolution and a revolutionary people's government which are essential factors in producing a new society of socialism.

Viva the workers and peasants of El Salvador! Viva the great workers-peasants alliance--basis of the revolutionary people's alliance! Death to Yankee imperialism! Death to imperialist intervention! Viva the international solidarity of the people! Revolution or death! The armed people shall win!

[Signed] Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces, on behalf of the Central Command; Marcial, Salvador Cayetano Carpio, chief [primer responsable] of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces.

NETHERLANDS NEWSMEN ATTACKED; DUARTE COMMENTS

PA021955 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1815 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Netherlands newsmen Jan Vanderpatten and Frank Diamond were wounded by policemen at a checkpoint. The policemen fired at their vehicle last night after they had identified them as newsmen. According to the newsmen, the policeman stopped them and asked them for identification. They told us to go ahead and after we had driven approximately 10 meters, they fired at us, one of the wounded newsmen said.

The newsmen's car had visible signs saying they were members of the press. The incident resulted in the visit of junta member Jose Napoleon Duarte and the director of one of the security entities, Col Eugenio Vides Casanova [to the newsmen]. Duarte said he deplored the incident and affirmed that if violence continues in this country the Christian Democrats will have no other recourse than to withdraw from the government. Duarte offered his personal escort to give security to the two newsmen at the hotel where they are staying after receiving emergency medical treatment at a nearby hospital for the slight wounds on their backs.

Vides Casanova said that the National Guard, of which he is the director, had not been involved in the incidents. He added: We know that the killing of a newsman prompted Somoza's fall in Nicaragua and we don't want that in this country. We have given strict orders to respect newsmen. Several newsmen had asked the junta for protection because of continuous telephone threats by alleged rightwing elements.

Foreign Correspondents Leaving

PA021340 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Foreign correspondents are leaving El Salvador to protest the machinegunning of newsmen. There are no guarantees for anyone in this country any more.

UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUALS ATTACK FORMER MINISTER

PA022000 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] Three unidentified individuals tried to kill Col Agustin Martinez Varela, former interior minister, a few minutes ago. According to reports, the individuals were waiting outside Colonel Martinez Varela's home located at 2213 San Antonio Abad Street. They attacked him as he was getting into his van, license number 93843, and this resulted in a shootout. The individuals set off a bomb near the former interior minister's home. According to reports given to this newscast, Colonel Martinez Varela and security units who were passing by repelled the attack.

PRTC CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ATTACK ON ENVOY

PA022200 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central 1500 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers [PRTC] has claimed responsibility for yesterday's attack against Guatemalan Ambassador Carlos Lemus Gallardo in front of the Salvadoran high school. In a telephone call to our studios, the PRTC noted that it carried out the attack as a reprisal for the death of one of its members killed in Guatemala a few days ago.

GUATEMALA

NEWSMAN SPEAKS ON U.S. REGIONAL POLICY

PA030241 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 28 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] Renowned newsman Mario Rivas Montes, manager of the newspaper EL IMPARCIAL, gave a lecture today at a U.S. Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Rivas Montes referred to President Carter's policy, warning that if Carter is reelected, democracy will disappear from Central America.

At the beginning of his lecture, Rivas Montes indicated that Guatemala has been made the victim of an attack that most Guatemalans do not acknowledge. According to him U.S. policy in Central America is the result of a defeatist attitude that is evident in other latitudes as well. In view of its inability to stop the Soviet Union's expansion in this part of the world, the U.S. Government arrived at the conclusion that there is no other path but the establishment in these countries of socialist regimes that will introduce changes and reforms in order to seize the banner from the communists. According to Rivas Montes, this is what William Bowdler led us to understand during his visit to Guatemala last September.

VISIT BY U.S. DESTROYER 'PROVES CORDIAL RELATIONS'

PA022240 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 26 Mar 80 p 3 PA

[Editorial: "Visit by U.S. Destroyer Reflects Cordial and Friendly Relations Between United States and Guatemala"]

[Text] The country's most important sectors believe that the visit by the U.S. Navy destroyer, Manley, to Guatemala is of special significance at this time. It is believed that the courtesy visit reflects at international level the good relations and cordiality existing between the U.S. and Guatemalan governments, and particularly between the armed forces of the two countries.

The presence of the destroyer and the visits its captain and officers are making in Guatemala City are viewed as a clear refutation of the propaganda being promoted against Guatemala by certain political sectors. That propaganda claims the Guatemalan Government does not have a friendly relationship with the U.S. Government. Not only is this completely false but it is part of a malicious campaign to discourage investors. In this way it seeks to damage the economy by weakening the democracy that exists here. In this way it would leave the doors open to extreme leftist subversion which uses the argument of the system's alleged failure to solve the needs and aspirations of the majority of the population which, as happens in developing countries, has a low income and difficulties in obtaining productive employment.

Capt John Brandon of the Manley and his officers met today with the defense minister and the chief of staff and laid a floral wreath at the monument to our country's heroes. On their arrival in Guatemala they were met by the commander of the navy and the ship received honors. Cordiality and friendly relations have been the characteristic aspect of this visit.

DEMOCRATIC FRONT DISCUSSES COUNTERREVOLUTION

FL021758 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL

[Text] Guatemala has now become the center of counterrevolutionary action in Central America following the revolution in Nicaragua and the people's uprising in El Salvador.

Representatives of Guatemala's Democratic Front Against Oppression this morning told Jamaican journalists that 10,000 members of Nicaragua's old National Guard were now in Guatemala adding to the oppression of the people. In addition, the working minority crafts in El Salvador, they said, had moved into Guatemala.

The Democratic Front representatives pointed out that the polarization in the country was [words indistinct] human rights and leftwing forces but between the right military bourgeoisie rulers and the people put into power by the U.S. State Department in 1954. It was noted, however, that the military rulers used anticommunist propaganda as a means of furthering the repression against the people with the rightwing leaders claiming that everyone who fought for their democratic rights for better salaries or against the repression of the government was a communist.

The democratic front representatives spoke of the many atrocities committed by the military rulers including the massacres carried out against the peasantry and the number of [word indistinct] bodies found each day on the city streets or in secret graves. [words indistinct] There were now no political prisoners in their country because they had all been killed.

The Democratic Front [words indistinct] people's organizations including trade unions, students, religious bodies and professionals; and its aim is to change the political structures in the country together with the armed revolutionaries now engaged in guerrilla warfare against the military.

NEW MARXIST-LENINIST ORGANIZATION SURFACES

PA011609 Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Mar 80 PA

[Text] A new underground leftist organization has emerged in our country. It is avowedly Marxist-Leninist and wants to impose scientific communism in Guatemala. It calls itself the (Yuha-Shona) Front, after the single peasant survivor of the Spanish Embassy massacre who was later taken from the hospital and killed. The (Yuha-Shona) front appeared this morning through a press communique surreptitiously brought to our studios.

The (Yuha-Shona) Front announced that it follows the line of the Guatemalan Labor Party, the Poor People's Guerrilla Army, Armed Peoples Organization and the Rebel Armed Forces which are well-known, underground, extreme leftist organizations. The (Yuha-Shona) Front has analyzed the current situation in the nation in its first public communique noting that it will struggle for a classless society based on the principles of dialectic materialism taught by Marx, Engels and Lenin.

HONDURAS

U.S. ROLE DENOUNCED BY LOCAL EDITORIAL

PA302337 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1742 GMT 30 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The local newspaper TIEMPO, in its editorial today, explores the possibility of Honduras being turned into a U.S. operations base from where the United States would use its military might against Central American neighbors not liked by U.S. diplomacy.

The editorial is entitled: "The Role of Honduras in Today's Central America." It states: "In the Central America of yesterday there were no problems for Washington as far as the security of its interests goes. Everybody could be trusted entirely, but now the situation has changed."

The editorial notes that previously "all the governments were trustworthy, although the Somoza regime, installed as a trustworthy one since the times of his grandparents, was the most reliable. Now the Sandinist government cannot be trusted as the guardian of those interests. No trust can be put on Lucas Garcia because he has turned almost the entire territory of Guatemala into a clandestine cemetery. The civilian-military junta in El Salvador cannot be assigned the role played by Somoza because its power is uncertain, especially now that the White Warriors Union has smeared its claws with the generous blood of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero. Costa Rica is almost the same it was before: It can hardly safeguard the banana companies."

The editorial notes that things being this way, the government of Honduras fills the requirements best because "the armed forces govern, the people are peaceful and General Paz Garcia could become the presidential candidate of the National Party." "Those statements," the editorial adds, "have been attributed to U.S. columnist Jack Anderson."

"Besides," TIEMPO goes on, "the embarrassing situation of the Carter administration with regard to the Nicaragua of today and its inability to effectively influence the Governments of El Salvador and Guatemala has made it choose Honduras to show off its force."

The newspaper states: "Now, the subject of all discussions concerning the immediate political future of Honduras is clear. This explains the official tour through the United States to 'improve Honduras' image,' as it has been said."

Approximately 45 days ago, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, president of the military junta of the Government of Honduras, visited New Orleans, Connecticut, Mississippi, New York and Washington where he met with Jimmy Carter. "After this trip, TIEMPO says, "the military junta of Honduras became the best government of the region and the most peaceful country, and the one providing the best hospitality to the investments of transnational enterprises." "Honduras' electoral process is 'ok' and its development policy is excellent; and for all this, there came the first shipment of dollars to equip and train the armed forces," the newspaper adds. The U.S. military notes: "And by the time this was reported, the U.S. military technicians were already fulfilling their task in Honduras in the antiguerrilla bases."

The editorial also considers the possibility of the National Party making the president of the military government junta, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, constitutional president "to suit the U.S. interests."

On 28 April the Hondurans will elect a National Constituent Assembly to return power to the civilians but the question as to whether the constitutional president will be elected in the second or in the first instance [en segundo o primer grado] has not been cleared. TIEMPO notes: "The arrival of another government would not fail to create some problems for the complying with the secret agreement."

"Honduras' image is good," the editorial explains, "if the government assumes Somoza's role in Central America; and the election process will also be good if it culminates with the fraudulent election of Paz Garcia in the constituent."

The newspaper concludes by stating that the denying of these secret agreements "do not fool anyone in Honduras since these domestic and foreign arrangements are part of the traditional policy of the Honduran reactionaries."

NICARAGUA

LEADER WARNS U.S. ON ACTION IN EL SALVADOR

FL021639 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL

[Text] Prague--Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge today reiterated his country's internationalist position and willingness to make whatever sacrifices are necessary to further solidarity with the fraternal nations of Latin America. Borge, member of the national directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, made statements to PRENSA LATINA shortly after his arrival in Prague with an official Nicaraguan delegation.

In a clear warning to U.S. interventionist plans in El Salvador, the Sandinist leader asserted: Any aggression against that country would be the same as an aggression against our own country and we would get ready for combat if there are interventionist forces against the interests of that fraternal people. In this regard, he said: We have learned from what Cuba has taught us, from our hero, Sandino, from the teachings of our leader Carlos Fonseca who died in combat and from the people's internationalist conviction.

We have learned to look to the outside and not just within our country and, although we are a poor country destroyed by Somoism, we are, at the same time, a nation ready to make whatever sacrifices are necessary to further solidarity with the fraternal people of Latin America.

He added that although this may mean some delay in our development and greater sacrifices, we continue educating our militants and people in that spirit. As an example of solidarity, he cited what Cuba is offering Nicaragua in the economic, health and education fields. Everywhere, Borge said, we have spoken of the particular characteristics of this solidarity of our Cuban brothers with our people. This solidarity is offered at a high sacrifice, emphasized the Sandinist leader.

He indicated that Cuba has gone beyond its own capabilities and has offered us a solidarity that will make our people and our Sandinist National Liberation Front feel eternal gratitude to our Cuban brothers.

SAAVEDRA COMMENTS ON U.S. INTERVENTION IN EL SALVADOR

PA030235 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 25 Mar 80 pp 1, 5 PA

[Excerpt] Companero Daniel Ortega Saavedra, revolutionary commander and member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has described the killing of Mgr Oscar Armulfo Romero as a provocation by the external and internal reactionaries, an attack not only on the brother Salvadoran people but on all peoples who are struggling for their freedom. "We have to view this killing as an attack on the Nicaraguan revolution itself and on just positions," he said.

We identified, he added, with his [Romero's] brave denunciations and the people who killed him are undoubtedly trying to weaken those just positions in El Salvador and throughout Latin America. This crime cannot be seen as separate from all the political, social and economic situations being experienced by the brother Salvadoran people. Neither can we isolate ourselves from the intensive activity which has been carried out recently by the most reactionary sectors of the United States, the warmongers, those who are pained by the death of Somoza's so-called Commander Bravo.

To back up his words, Commander Ortega Saavedra told BARRICADA that he has proof that in the Yankee Congress' discussions, members of the national directorate of our vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front, were called murderers. For this reason, we cannot separate this crime from the intensive aggressive campaign of the reactionaries who are trying to weaken the popular system. We could think of this as a provocation promoted by the external forces and maintained by the internal forces of the oligarchic reactionaries and by the rightist groups organized and supported by sectors within the army itself.

It is like a provocation designed to get the brother people of El Salvador to be pushed by emotion into the streets to become an easy target for repression. It is a provocation so that, under those circumstances, a military coup would be justified and would fulfill "hopes" of neutralizing the revolutionary process within that brother people.

We believe that the democratic and popular sectors of El Salvador understand this, Ortega said, but the people cannot remain with their hands folded without responding. However, the response must come without falling into the trap that the enemy is attempting to set.

One thing is clear: that the assassination of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, instead of weakening the popular struggle and hindering its advance, has greatly enhanced the archbishop's image and strengthened the process.

They Would Have To Think Twice About A Direct Intervention

Companero Ortega said the danger of direct U.S. intervention in El Salvador cannot be completely ruled out. However, the political cost to the United States would be too high, because the conditions are not favorable for this, not even in the United States itself.

An alternative in El Salvador could be a military coup, an indirect intervention through the most reactionary sectors of the Central American area--those rightist forces that have been organizing for some time in countries close to El Salvador. Only as a last resort would there be intervention.

However, to effect direct intervention, they [the United States] would need the support of some Latin American countries. They would seek support in the OAS and throughout Latin America. But it would be very difficult for them to obtain this support, since very few countries would lend themselves to an interventionist adventure, nor would they make themselves accomplices to the murder of the beloved archbishop. No people in the world would applaud this attitude. On the contrary, a direct intervention would be repudiated all over the world.

U.S. MILITARY AID TO EL SALVADOR DENOUNCED

PA022354 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] While the massacres in El Salvador continue, the United States has announced millions in aid for the Salvadoran army. While the civilian-military government in El Salvador is being condemned around the world for its massacre of the people at the Mass for Archbishop Romero, Mr Jimmy Carter's administration, always out of step with the times, has pompously announced the approval of military aid for the genocidal army.

The U.S. Government and Congress have been warned by domestic U.S. groups that disagree with the Yankee intervention policy in Latin America that this aid will simply increase the repression of the people and prolong the Good Friday agony that our Salvadoran brothers are going through, as our foreign minister, Father Miguel D'Escoto, put it. But the voice of reason was not enough for those in the State Department and the Congress who are still wielding the "big stick" [in English], which we might well translate now as the "big rifle," to impose their views on nations which they have traditionally dominated and whose peoples risk their lives and shed their blood to shame that opprobrious domination, that humiliating tutelage.

In the long run the North Americans will be defeated in El Salvador, as they have been in Cuba, Vietnam and Nicaragua, despite the green light given today to increase the criminal military aid announced with so much effrontery.

CHIEF JUSTICE FEARS U.S. INTERVENTION IN EL SALVADOR

PA022326 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Dr Roberto Arguello Hurtado, chief justice of the Supreme Court and member of the delegation that went to El Salvador to attend Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero's funeral, told this station that he saw four U.S. military helicopters equipped with machineguns and ready to fight. He added that we must strongly protest to the nations of the world the massacre that our Salvadoran brothers are experiencing.

Life in El Salvador is like ancient times; to protect themselves from criminals, people have to seek refuge in churches.

Here is what our chief justice said in analyzing the current situation in El Salvador and the presence of the U.S. aircraft there. [begin recording]

[Arguello Hurtado] I noticed that the Salvadoran junta, those who are ruling in El Salvador, are the military allied with rightwing forces, armed civilians. The Social Christian [as heard] Party has no role in the junta, but actually Napoleon Duarte, who was a populist leader, has (possibly) lost his prestige by allying himself with the repressive army. To me the Social Christian [Party] is going to have to step down because the people's pressure is enormous and El Salvador is going to face an even more radical warfare.

What happened at the cathedral convinced the Salvadoran people that civic protests and demonstrations are to no avail and this is raising the awareness of the people. The Social Christian Party has lost all prestige because it allied itself with the repressive forces. A land reform law which may contain good provisions is of no use if it cannot be enforced due to the situation the country is in.

At the airport we saw four brand-new U.S. helicopters which are probably part of the military aid being given to El Salvador. They were outfitted with 30-caliber machineguns and spotlights and were ready for action. We saw them in broad daylight. They had their doors open and looked ready to go into combat. Salvadoran markings had already been painted on.

We have to denounce these events because the Salvadoran people are being repressed and the junta will hardly be able to control the forces existing in El Salvador. It cannot control either the right or left.

[Question] Do you think the gringos will intervene in El Salvador, Doctor?

[Answer] I would not be surprised. If they wanted to intervene here through the OAS at the time of the insurrection, I would not be surprised if they have an intervention plan for El Salvador because it is obvious that U.S. weapons are already arriving and we were able to see them.

[Question] What effect would that intervention have on the Central American people?

[Answer] It would be a very big mistake for the United States because any government imposed through intervention will, instead of solving the situation, create another climate and might even create another Vietnam in El Salvador. Therefore if a popular government is not going to be established, a government in which the real revolutionary forces are represented, nothing will be accomplished. Violence will continue until the people take power, as occurred in Nicaragua. [end recording]

AMENDED TAX LAW, NEW BUDGET ANNOUNCED

PA020454 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpts] At a news conference at the government palace this afternoon, the authorities announced an amended income tax law and the budget of economic reactivation--the national budget--which will be effective from 1 April to 31 December of this year.

Junta members Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Compañero Sergio Ramirez Mercado and engineer Alfonso Robelo participated in the news conference, while the Finance Ministry was represented by Minister Joaquín Cuadra and Deputy Minister William Hupper.

Junta member Ramirez Mercado told newsmen that the conference had been called to make two announcements in the fiscal and budgetary areas, namely, an amendment to the income tax law and the economic reactivation budget.

Regarding fiscal and public expense policy, the government program promised to amend the fiscal system to obtain adequate levels of income, insure equity in the tax burden and end arbitrary actions and offenses in the collection of taxes.

Dr Ramirez Mercado said that among other measures to be taken are the reduction or abolition of taxes which have an effect on staple items or items of popular consumption. Taxes will be imposed on (?luxury) items. During the news conference Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra summarized the economic reactivation budget which will be in effect from April to December, 1980. He said that during the Somoza dictatorship, the word budget meant robbery, embezzlement and aggression against the people. Moreover, he said, although this money came from the people themselves, there was manipulation of income to give the impression that the money for the wages of government employees and the crystallization of development plans came from the resources of the Somoza family and the thieves who governed with them.

Commander Ortega Saavedra added that we are making serious efforts to move forward with a budget which reflects our country's true situation, which means that government employees, who are employees of the Nicaraguan people, have the obligation not to get our fingers into the till, but to work with a mentality of saving, of obtaining maximum yield from the money that the people make available to us through the state.

Compañero Daniel Ortega said that the Nicaraguan budget for the period of 1 April through 31 December of this year totals 5,970,500,000 cordobas. He added that the Somozist budget totaled less than 3.2 billion cordobas, which means that the Sandinist government is making a number of investments in social projects in the areas of health, education, transportation, medicine, communications media, maintenance, housing plans and so forth.

Compañero Ortega Saavedra said that the budget has been approved, which does not mean that every official, every minister and every organization will get his hands on that budget, because control mechanisms have been created to supervise each state organization. In this manner, every investment will have to be verified and supervised. It is the employees' duty to remain continuously watchful, he said. Ortega Saavedra said that robbery or cheating of the people cannot be permitted. The danger is latent, because we inherited structures, mentalities and training that we are changing and improving.

For his part, Deputy Finance Minister William Hupper discussed other aspects of the economic reactivation budget. Here is Deputy Minister William Hupper.

[Begin Hupper recording] The draft law of the reactivation budget to support the various ministries and organizations which make up the central government and its conformity with the objectives of the program of economic reactivation for the benefit by the people. [sentence as heard]

[Number 1. not received]

2. Analysis carried out by the [words indistinct] of budgetary planning established by Decree Law 1939 of 1979 (?a compendium) of different viewpoints of the heads of each of the ministries and organizations and the recommendations in the area of projects and studies to reactivate the economy. [passage indistinct]

Considering the need to improve the efficiency in the financial sector of the ministries and organizations through the existence of general rules of [words indistinct], management of funds, purchase system, personnel administration and statistical registration, to insure an austere and efficient fiscal period which (?reflects) the limited availability of financial resources with which to achieve basic objectives [words indistinct] in the use of its faculties, decrees:

Article 1. The use of regular and special income is hereby approved to finance the agro-industrial reactivation budget of 1980 for a total amount of 5,970,500,000 cordobas, in accordance with the produce income outlined in the annex to this decree-law.

Article 2. The agroindustrial budget for 1980 is hereby approved in accordance with the details given in Chapters 1 and 2 of Annex B of this decree-law, the limits of which are indicated in Article 3. Chapter 1 consists of the budget for activities and projects for reactivation and Chapter 2 consists of the budget for projects not included in the reactivation. [end recording]

MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LITERACY BRIGADE

PA012017 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpt] This is a last-minute report. The literacy brigade is in a state of emergency; 4,000 additional volunteers are needed. All those university students who are enrolled in the technical departments and who had not been accepted, may now participate in the literacy brigade in view of the emergency situation. This situation is due to the fact that many campesinos now wish to learn to read and write.

HASSAN LEADS DELEGATION ON VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

For Prague reportage on the visit to Czechoslovakia by a delegation led by Moises Hassan, member of the governing council of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, and Tomas Borge, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, see the Czechoslovakia section of the 3 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

FIDEL CASTRO RECEIVES VISITING CPSU OFFICIAL

FLO21114 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee, has met with Vasiliy Konotop, member of the CPSU Central Committee and Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the CPSU Provincial Committee in Moscow.

Vitaliy Vorobnikov, USSR ambassador to Cuba and member of the CPSU Central Committee and officials of the PCC Central Committee general department of foreign relations, Havana Provincial Party Committee and Soviet Embassy participated in the fraternal talk. During the meeting, Konotop told the commander in chief of the impressions received from his activities during his visit to our country at the head of a CPSU delegation.

DELEGATE HEADS UN DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE IN APRIL

FLO21647 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL

[Excerpt] Geneva--The Cuban delegate to the Disarmament Committee, Luis Solas Vila, today assumed the presidency of this United Nations organ for April. At the first session, Solas Vila said his country will spare no efforts so that the disarmament committee can perform fruitful and satisfactory work. After recalling that Cuba participated for the first time in this organ of the international community in 1979, he stressed the work done by the committee, which currently has an agenda covering all disarmament topics.

U.S. ENVOY WHITE CALLED 'INTERVENTIONIST, PROVOCATEUR'

PA012118 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The Cuban daily GRANMA today describes Robert White, new U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, as an interventionist and provocateur. GRANMA points out that a few days ago the ambassador lied when he announced, prior to anyone else, that Juan Chacon, secretary general of the Revolutionary Peoples' Bloc, had been killed. The official organ of the Communist Party of Cuba then says that this leads one to believe that by spreading this false report on the death of a leader of the people, White was trying to provoke the wrath and protests of the suffering Salvadoran people. The newspaper adds that White was also trying to get the repressive corps to act against those who take to the San Salvador streets to condemn the military-Christian Democratic junta and the United States.

In concluding, GRANMA says that the U.S. ambassador's announcement is not only a typical action of intervention but a provocation which sought to repeat the 1932 massacre in El Salvador.

PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST LEADER INTERVIEWED

PA022233 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Radio Havana Interview with President of Puerto Rican Socialist Party Carlos Garcia, date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] In recent months we have noticed a considerable revolutionary upheaval in Central America and the Caribbean. We would like to know your opinion of the interrelation which may exist between the struggle for Puerto Rico's independence and the general revolutionary unrest in Central America and the Caribbean.

[Answer] Apparently the Caribbean is no longer that peaceful lake dominated at whim by Yankee imperialism. Today the Caribbean is in turmoil. The clear-cut Caribbean and Latin American support for Puerto Rican independence has increased in recent years. It is no longer true as the U.S. propagandists pretended, that Puerto Rican independence was a Cuban maneuver to create problems for the United States. There is growing support beyond the socialist field. For example, during the last conference of solidarity with Puerto Rican independence held in Mexico, resolutions were received from the Bolivian and Colombian congresses in favor of independence. More and more Latin American personalities and organizations have expressed this support.

Therefore, in the Caribbean and Latin American region, there is an awakening and a firmer and more open attitude in favor of our independence. The case of colonialism in Puerto Rico is becoming important within the agenda of the international community at a time when less than 1 percent of the territories of this planet are under colonial regimes. Since Puerto Rico is the main colony of the main empire, it is important to the international community.

Regarding the struggle of the Salvadoran people, it seems to us that it has obtained massive support in its country and it will triumph as will the other Latin American peoples still under the military boot and the despotic and totalitarian regimes of military castes.

The Puerto Rican Socialist Party offers its solidarity to the Salvadoran people in their struggle for a new social order and a better nation in which to live. The patriotic Puerto Rican forces have offered their solidary and ample support to the Sandinist Front and the Nicaraguan people in their struggle against Somoza's dictatorship and I modestly believe we contributed our share to the overthrow of Somoza's tyranny. In this same manner we are ready to do our nationalist duty toward the Salvadoran people and the other peoples struggling on this continent.

ICAP, AALAPSO COMMEMORATE PALESTINE DAY

FL011137 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Apr 80 FL

[Text] An event has been held at the headquarters of the Cuban Institute for Friendship with Peoples [ICAP] under the sponsorship of the African-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] to commemorate Palestine Homeland Day.

AALAPSO Executive Secretary Melba Hernandez made the opening remarks. She said the celebration of the date represents at this time a rejection and repudiation of the Camp David plot. The Palestine Liberation Organization representative in Cuba, (Imad Hadad), then explained the struggle of his people against Israel and its allies. He also condemned Tel Aviv's expansionist plans on Arab land. He called for solidarity of the socialist countries and Latin America with the Arab world until the final victory of the Palestinian people.

BRIEFS

RADIO OFFICIAL IN MOSCOW--Luis Mas Martin, director of the Cuban station Radio Rebelde, today left Moscow following a visit of several days to the USSR. Mas Martin met with Yevgeniy Tyazhelnikov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee's Agitation and Propaganda Department. The Radio Rebelde director also was received by Sergey Lapin, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and representatives of the CPSU, Leninist KOMSOMOL and Central Council of USSR Trade Unions. Radio Rebelde for several years has been offering its listeners a Russian language course and recently established a contest that will allow 75 listeners from Cuba and Latin America to attend the Olympic games in Moscow. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 80 FL]

CARICOM COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONFERENCE OPENS IN GUYANA

FL270034 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 26 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The 16th conference of the CARICOM Council of Ministers opened in Georgetown, Guyana, today with calls to step up the regional integration movement.

Leading off the speeches at the 35-minute opening ceremony, the CARICOM secretary general, Dr Kurleigh King, said that if the council could deal conclusively with some of the items in the agenda it would leave only a few major issues to be dealt with by a CARICOM heads of government summit. He said that over 40 items originally set down for the agenda of the heads of government summit had been dealt with by other institutions in the movement.

The CARICOM secretary general said that the 16th council meeting was taking place at a time when evidence of forward movement was strong. And he said it was therefore necessary to maintain the momentum in order to save the region from the impossible task of repeating the recovery achieved over the past few years. However, Dr King deplored the fact that efforts to implement the rules of origin governing the manufacture of CARICOM goods for intraregional trade had met without success for 3 years now.

Aid to LDC's

FL272051 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 27 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] General consensus is reported on new methods to aid development of the lesser developed countries in the Caribbean community as the 16th CARICOM Common Market Council of Ministers conference ended its first session today.

Sources in the meeting, which is scheduled to end late today, were optimistic that the new range of mechanisms for the LDC's would be approved by the council. However, officials refused to disclose the character and details of the new measures. Spokesmen from the lesser developed countries said they were reserving comments until after the council takes its decisions.

Grenada's deputy prime minister said after today's first session that discussions on the new measures had been very constructive and fruitful.

Country Officers Appointed

FL282041 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 28 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The Caribbean Community--CARICOM--Council of Ministers has agreed to the appointment of five country officers to be attached to the lesser developed countries, the LDC's. The agreement came last night at the close of the 2-day 16th Council of Ministers meeting in Guyana. The meeting was chaired by Grenada's deputy prime minister and minister of finance, Bernard Coard.

Mr Coard said the country officers would be persons with high technical abilities who would provide technical assistance to the LDC's to bolster their capabilities for greater involvement in the work of CARICOM.

The officers will be appointed by the CARICOM Secretariat and will be based separately in the various LDC's. One will be based in Belize, another in Antigua to service that island and the eastern Caribbean Common Market, a third is to be shared between St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and Montserrat and a fourth shared by St Lucia and Dominica, and the fifth shared by St Vincent and Grenada.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PENA GOMEZ STRESSES UNITY ACHIEVED BY SOCIALISTS

FL292123 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Dr Francisco Pena Gomez proclaimed yesterday that the Socialist International had just achieved for the first time a strong alliance among its members. The secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] said that this unity was achieved thanks to the regional conference of social democracy that ended yesterday in Santo Domingo.

Speaking at the closing of the event to prominent socialist leaders, Pena Gomez affirmed that the socialist international (?had just) formed a very ambitious united movement. He added that the men and women of the Caribbean had held high the banner of democracy and democratic socialism whereas in other areas of the continent military totalitarianism prevailed.

Dr Pena Gomez said that to date the democratic movements of the Caribbean had remained isolated from one another. The PRD leader said that thanks to the Socialist International and the conference that ended yesterday, an excellent gathering of political forces was accomplished. Pointing out to the unity achieved in the conference, Dr Pena Gomez said: [Begin Pena Gomez recording] [word indistinct] us, Latin Americans, the Socialist International has provided us with the occasion of achieving a new unity because until now many party meetings had been held in Latin America, partisan groups had been formed among Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America, but never had a movement arisen with the participation of the English-, Portuguese-, French-speaking countries and also of the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean. [end recording]

Among the most prominent foreign political leaders listening to Pena Gomez were Mario Soares of Portugal, Francois Mitterrand of France, and Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela.

GRENADA

POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED; COMMUNITY COUNCILS PLANNED

FL012117 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 1 Apr 80 FL

[Summary from poor reception] Grenada's People's Revolutionary Government has announced the release of 15 more political prisoners taken during the March 13 revolution last year. The government said that the release of the 15 was in keeping with a promise made by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The statement does not indicate how many prisoners remain in custody. The Grenada Government has also announced plans to establish community councils on the island to help develop greater community awareness.

HAITI

FOUR CUBANS SEEK ASYLUM, WANT TO GO TO U.S.

PA021702 Paris AFP in Spanish 0243 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 1 Apr (AFP)--It was learned here today from an official source that four Cubans have asked for political asylum in Haiti.

The four men left Cuba last week aboard a small vessel which brought them to Jeremie, in southwest Haiti. They are presently under arrest in Port-au-Prince.

The four refugees, whose identities were not revealed, apparently will be authorized to travel to the United States shortly, where they want to settle according to an investigation made by Haitian security authorities.

Although the consecutive governments of Presidents Francois and Jean-Claude Duvalier have not maintained diplomatic relations with Cuba since the early sixties, they have always refused to authorize the presence and activities of anti-Castro Cuban exiles in Haitian territory.

MARTINIQUE

TENSION REPORTED OVER PRESENCE OF FRENCH POLICE

FL011541 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Apr 80 FL

[Text] There is increased tension in the island of Martinique over the presence there of a squadron of French police since March 6th. The police were sent to the island following the announcement by the Coordinating Committee of Labor Unions in Martinique that a general strike would be called for the 17th of this month.

The secretary of state for the overseas departments and territories, Paul Dijoud, warned that the police will remain there until the committee opened negotiations with the authorities. But the committee has said it would not resume negotiations unless the police were withdrawn.

The committee is calling the strike to try for better jobs and wages, lower prices and the closure of the Immigration Office. The committee said the Immigration Office was encouraging young people to leave Martinique.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

FOREIGN BANKS ORDERED TO TRANSFER TO LOCAL OWNERSHIP

FL311319 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The last two foreign banks operating in Trinidad and Tobago have been given until yearend to transfer ownership to Trinidadians. The announcement was made by Trinidad's minister of finance [as heard], Mr Mervyn de Souza.

The minister said that if the two American banks--Chase Manhattan and Citibank--did not meet the deadline [words indistinct] the government, they would be ordered to close down operations or their business would be severely restricted.

Senator De Souza said there had been very little reaction by the two banks to government's repeated suggestions that they should go local. He added that localization of commercial banks operating in Trinidad and Tobago was part of the government's policy to have all the important sectors of the economy transferred to nationals.

In keeping with the government's (?policy) on commercial banks, the other foreign banks operating in the country have all changed their ownership patterns to fit in with the nation's requirements.